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C12N 15/00, C07H 21/04, 21/02, C07K 1/00, C12P 21/06, A01N 63/00, 43/04, A61K 45/00, 39/00

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60/118,287

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US

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(72) Inventors; and

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(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: INHIBITION OF THE MHC CLASS II ANTIGEN PRESENTATION PATHWAY AND PRESENTATION TO CD4+ CELLS

(57) Abstract

The human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) protein, that was previously shown to block the MHC class I antigen presentation pathway, has been shown herein to block the MHC class II pathway. This is surprising because the class I and class II proteins are not homologous. US2 caused degradation of class II—alpha proteins and also class II—DM—alpha, part of an enzymatic complex required for loading of antigenic peptides. In this way, US2 has a double inhibitory effect on the MHC class II pathway. US2 expression in cells effectively blocked presentation of antigens to CD4+ T lymphocytes. US2, or soluble variants thereof, can be used to reduce inappropriate immune responses directed to vectors, or expressed transgenes. In addition, such molecules can be used to block immunity to transplanted cells or organs or in autoimmune diseases.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

| | | PC1/0800/02/ | 40 | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : Please See Extra Sheet. US CL : Please See Extra Sheet. According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | | | | | | |
| B. FIEL | DS SEARCHED | | | | | | |
| Minimum d | ocumentation searched (classification system followed | by classification symbols) | | | | | |
| U.S. : | 435/320.i, 69.1; 536/23.1, 24.1; 424/93.21, 184.1; 53 | 50/350; 514/44; | | | | | |
| Documentat | ion searched other than minimum documentation to the | extent that such documents are included | in the fields searched | | | | |
| STN, | ata base consulted during the international search (nate TERMS: HCMV US2 OR USII, US2 PROTEIN, MI | | , search terms used) | | | | |
| C. DOC | UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | | | | |
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where app | propriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. | | | | |
| X | Database Swissprot 38 on gencore, No. P09713, Weston, K. et al. 'Sequence of the short unique region, short repeats, and part of the long repeats of human Cytomegalovirus,' J. Mol. Biol. 1986, Vol. 192 pages 177-208, see entire document. | | | | | | |
| x | Database A-geneseq 36 on gencore 4.5, No. R34706, Glick, D.L. et al. 'Purified DNA encoding eukaryotic nad cyclase-useful for prodn. Of cyclic adenosine di: phosphate ribose from NAD,' US 5202426 A, 13 April 1993, see cols 15-18. | | | | | | |
| Database Pir-62 on gencore 4.5, No. E26078, SO9916, Weston, R. et al. 'Sequence of the short unique region, short repeats, and part of the long repeat'. J. Mol. Biol. 1986, 192, pages 177-208, see entire document. | | | | | | | |
| X Funth | ner documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. | See patent family annex. | | | | | |
| "A" do | ecial categories of cited documents: cument defining the general state of the art which is not considered be of particular relevance | *T* later document published after the in date and not in conflict with the ap- the principle or theory underlying the | plication but cited to understand | | | | |
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| Date of the actual completion of the international search 21 APRIL 2000 Date of mailing of the international search and a search are search as a search are search | | | | | | | |
| Commission Box PCT Washington | mailing address of the ISA/US mer of Patents and Trademarks n, D.C. 20231 | | uce for | | | | |
| racsimile N | lo. (703) 305-3230 | Telephone No. (703) 308-0196 | | | | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US00/02740

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| \ | US 5,843,458 A (JONES et al.) 01 December 1998 (01/12/98), see entire document. | 1-38 |
| \ | WO 97/32605 A1 (MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY) 12 September 1997(12/09/97), see entire document. | 1-38 |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US00/02740

| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: IPC (7): | |
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| C12N 15/00; C07H 21/04, 21/02; C07K 1/00; C12P 21/06; A01N 63/00, 43/04; A61K 45/00, 39/00; | 1 |
| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: US CL : | |
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION (PCT Rule 61.2)

PCT

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Date of mailing (day/month/year)
04 October 2000 (04.10.00)

International application No.
PCT/US00/02740

International filing date (day/month/year)
02 February 2000 (02.02.00)

Applicant

JOHNSON, David, C. et al

| 1. | The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made: |
|----|---|
| | X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on: |
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| | in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on: |
| 2. | The election X was |
| | was not |
| | made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b). |
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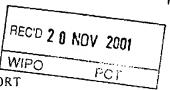
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Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| | , | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 899-54203 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | FION See Notification of Transmittal of Internation Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/41 | | | | | |
| International application No. | International filing date (da | y/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) | | | | |
| PCT/US00/02740 | 02 FEBRUARY 2000 | | 02 FEBRUARY 1999 | | | | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) Please See Supplemental Sheet. | or national classification and | IPC | | | | | |
| Applicant OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY | | | | | | | |
| This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). | | | | | | | |
| These annexes consist of a to | | | | | | | |
| 3. This report contains indication | is relating to the following | items: | | | | | |
| I X Basis of the repor | rt | | | | | | |
| II Priority | | | | | | | |
| III Non-establishmen | nt of report with regard to | novelty, inven | tive step or industrial applicability | | | | |
| IV Lack of unity of | | • • | | | | | |
| V X Reasoned statemer | | | y, inventive step or industrial applicability; | | | | |
| VI Certain documents | | | | | | | |
| | he international application | | | | | | |
| | is on the international applic | entian | | | | | |
| VIII Certain observation | is on the international applic | atton | | | | | |
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| Date of submission of the demand | Di | ite of completio | n of this report | | | | |
| 24 AUGUST 2000 | | 22 OCTOBER | 2001 | | | | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ | | thorized officer | 1 | | | | |
| Commissioner of Patents and Traden Box PCT | narks | ANNE MARII | Jamence for | | | | |
| Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | Te | lephone No. | (703) 308-0196 | | | | |
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

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PCT/US00/02740

| 1. B | asis of the repu | | | | | | |
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| 1. With | regard to the eler | nents of the internat | ional application:* | | | | |
| [x] | - | al application as | | | | | |
| بيا | the description | | | | | | |
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| | pages | | , med with the letter of | | | | |
| \mathbf{x} | the claims: | | | | | | |
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| the | With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language | | | | | | |
| pre | | | amino acid sequence disclosed in the international out on the basis of the sequence listing: | application, the international | | | |
| X | contained in th | e international ap | plication in printed form. | | | | |
| | filed together v | with the internatio | nal application in computer readable form. | | | | |
| Ħ | furnished subse | equently to this A | uthority in written form. | | | | |
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| | The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the writen sequence listing has been furnished. | | | | | | |
| 4. X | The amendmen | nts have resulted i | in the cancellation of: | | | | |
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| 5. | | | me of) the amendments had not been made, since they | have been considered to go | | | |
| | beyond the disc | losure as filed, as ir | adicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).** | ar Articla IA area valarread to | | | |
| in th and | is report as "ori _! 70.17). | ginally filed" and a | ted to the receiving Office in response to an invitation und re not annexed to this report since they do not contain | a amendments (Rules 70.16 | | | |
| **Anv | replacement shee | et containing such o | <u>imendments must be referred to under item 1 and anne</u> | exed to this report. | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

Insernational application No. PCT/US00/02740

| V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applical citations and explanations supporting such statement | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----|--|--|
| 1. | statement | | | | | |
| | Novelty (N) | Claims | 5-7, 9, 14, 16-38 | YES | | |
| | | Claims | 1-4, 8, 10-13, 15 | NO | | |
| ! | Inventive Step (IS) | Claims | 5-7. 9, 14, 16-38 | YES | | |
| | | Claims | 1-4, 8, 10-13, 15 | NO | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-38 | YES | | |
| l. | | Claim. | NONE | NO | | |

2. citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1-4, 8, 10-13, and 15 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by WO 97/32605 12 September 1997, hereafter referred to as Ploegh et al. The claims recite vectors encoding HCMV US2 and methods of inhibiting the recognition of cellular tissue or the methods of preventing or treating autoimmune disease by administering an effect amount of said vector. The claims further recite wherein the vector is a viral vector and and wherein the US2 has not been mutated to recognize MHC class II.

Ploegh et al. teaches vectors, including adenoviral or vaccinia viral vectors, encoding wild type HCMV US2, and the administration of said vectors to mammals to prevent autoimmune disease (Ploegh et al., see pages 8-10, especially page 10, and page 27, claims 25-28). It is noted that while Ploegh et al. does not specifically teach that US2 has MHC class II inhibiting activity, such activity is inherent to the wild type US2 protein. Thus, by teaching all the limitations of the claims, P loegh et al. anticipates the instant invention.

Claims 1-4, 8, and 10-11 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Machold, R.P. et al., J. Exp. Med., January 20, 1997, Vol. 185, pages 363-366. The claims recite vectors encoding HCMV US2 and methods of inhibiting the recognition of cellular tissue by CD4+ and CD8+ T cells by administering an effect amount of said vector. The claims further recite wherein the vector is a viral vector and and wherein the US2 has not been mutated to recognize MHC class H.

Machold et al. teaches vaccinia virus vectors encoding wild type HCMV US2 and the transfection of mammalian cells with the vaccinia virus resulting in the degradation of MHC class I molecules which in turn inhibits recognition of the transfected cells by T cells (Machold et al., page 364, Figure 1, and page 366). It is noted that while Machold et al. does not specifically teach that US2 has MHC class II inhibiting activity, such activity is inherent to the wild type US2 protein. Thus, by teaching all the limitations of the claims, Machold et al. anticipates the instant invention. (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT .

International application No.

PCT/US00/02740

| Sup | plen | iental | Box |
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(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

CLASSIFICATION:

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as fisted below: IPC(7): C12N 15/00; CO7H 21/04, 21/02; C07K 1/00; C12P 21/06; A01N 63/00, 43/04; A61K 45/00, 39/00; and US C1.: 435/320.1, 69.1; 536/23.1, 24.1; 424/93.21, 184.1; 530/350; 514/44;

V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):

Claims 5, 9, 14, and 16-38 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or f airly suggest the administration of HCMV US2 protein to inhibit cellular immune responses or treat disease, or teach a soluble US2 variant.

Claims 1-38 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4) for industrial applicability.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

| MACHOLD. R. P. et al. "The HCMV gene products US11 an | d US2 differ in their ability to attack allelic forms of murine |
|---|---|
| major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class I heavy chains." | J. Exp. Med. January 20, 1997. Vol. 185. pages 363-366, see |
| especially page 364. | |